

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONTEV 00963 241501Z

53

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PER-03 SS-15 MMS-04 SP-02 ABF-01 /036 W

----- 074295

R 241408Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8516

UNCLAS MONTEVIDEO 963

E.HZF 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, UY

SUBJECT: RENEWAL OF CONTRACT FOR COMMERCIAL  
SERVICES (LAFTA)

REF: MVD 209 (JAN. 24, 1974)

FOR ARA/MGT

1. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL OUR REQUEST LAST YEAR (REFTEL) ENDORSED BY CASP TO CONTRACT A PART-TIME LOCAL EMPLOYEE TO FOLLOW AND REPORT ON LATIN AMERICA FREE TRADE AREA (LAFTA) MATTERS. THAT REQUEST WAS SUBSEQUENTLY APPROVED (MVD 888, STATE 06451 AND 74668) AND AN ALLOTMENT MADE FROM REGIONAL FUNDS.

2. EMBASSY BELIEVES CONTRACT, WHICH EXPIRES APRIL 15, HAS MORE THAN PROVEN ITS WORTH AND CONTRACT EMPLOYEE'S ABILITY AND PRODUCTION HAVE EXCEEDED OUR EXPECTATIONS AND THE CONTRACTS'S REQUIREMENTS. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS CONTRACT RENEWAL FOR ALL REASONS CONTAINED REFTEL FOR ANOTHER YEAR UNDER SAME TERMS AND CONDITIONS. WITH GOVERNMENT DECREED WAGE HIKES, SALARY WOULD BE 6,892.10 UGUAYAN PESOS PER HOUR FOR AN 80 HOUR MONTH. WE BELIEVE THIS REGIONAL COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE FUNCTION HAS PROVEN BENEFICIAL TO BOTH USG AND PRIVATE INTERESTS IN LATIN AMERICA.

3. AN ADDITIONAL BONUS HAS BEEN CONCRETE EVIDENCE OF US INTEREST IN LAFTA AFFAIRS AND SUPPORT FOR REGIONAL INTEGRATION. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, AT ONE TIME A SENIOR FSO WAS  
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PAGE 02 MONTEV 00963 241501Z

STATIONED HERE TO FOLLOW LAFTA AFFAIRS. REDUCTIONS IN

PERSONNEL HAVE SINCE MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR US MAINTAIN LAFTA CONTACTS AT THAT HIGH LEVEL OF INTEREST. ALTHOUGH LESS ACTIVE AND IMPORTANT AN ORGANIZATION THAN ORIGINAL EXPECTATIONS, LAFTA REMAINS OF INTEREST AND SIGNIFICANCE IN OUR HEMISPHERIC RELATIONS, AND IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT MANY LATIN AMERICAN DIPLOMATS WHO ARE INFLUENTIAL OR WHO CAN BE EXPECTED TO OCCUPY POSITIONS OF IMPORTANCE IN THEIR GOVERNMENTS DO A TOUR HERE. THIS BONUS OF GOOD WILL IS AN ADDITIONAL REASON FOR OUR RECOMMENDATION.

4. PLEASE ADVISE.  
HAAHR

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**TAGS:** AFSP, UY  
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